

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-16. (Canceled)
17. (New) A recliner mechanism comprising:
a first fitting part including a first toothing;
a latching element including a second toothing that is engageable with the first toothing;
a clamping element engageable with the latching element, the clamping element including a third toothing; and
a toothed element including a fourth toothing and a spring, the fourth toothing being engageable with the third toothing, the spring being encircled by the toothed element, wherein the spring is configured to act on the toothed element and indirectly on the clamping element via the third toothing and the fourth toothing to hold the latching element in engagement with the first fitting part.
18. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the first fitting part, the latching element, the clamping element and the toothed element are pivotable relative to each other about respective pivot axes, the respective pivot axes being arranged parallel to one another.
19. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 18 wherein the first fitting part, the latching element, the clamping element and the toothed element each have a fastening opening arranged concentrically about the respective pivot axes.
20. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the toothed element comprises an outer ring and an inner ring, the spring being arranged concentrically with and between the outer ring and the inner ring.

21. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the clamping element includes a first fastening opening and the toothed element includes a second fastening opening, the first fastening opening and the second fastening opening each being configured to receive a transmission rod to accommodate different seating arrangements.

22. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 21 wherein a respective fine toothing is provided around an inner periphery of the first fastening opening and the second fastening opening.

23. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 21 further comprising a molded part configured to be inserted into the first fastening opening, the mold part having a profiled inner contour configured to receive a transmission rod.

24. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 further comprising a second fitting part, wherein the latching element, the clamping element and the toothed element are fastened to the second fitting part.

25. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the spring comprises a torsion spring.

26. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the spring comprises a leg spring.

27. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the spring comprises a flat spiral spring.

28. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the clamping element further includes a control contour for interacting with a corresponding control contour of the latching element.

29. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 17 wherein the toothing of the clamping element and the mating toothing of the toothed element are each an external toothing segment.

30. (New) A recliner mechanism comprising:
a first fitting part including a first toothing;
a latching element including a second toothing that is engageable with the first toothing;
a clamping element engageable with the latching element, the clamping element including a third toothing and a first fastening opening;
a toothed element including a fourth toothing and a second fastening opening, the fourth toothing being engageable with the third toothing, and
a spring configured to act on the toothed element to hold the latching element in engagement with the first fitting part,
wherein the first fastening opening and the second fastening opening are each configured to receive a transmission rod to accommodate different seating arrangements.

31. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 30 wherein a respective fine toothing is provided around an inner periphery of the first fastening opening and the second fastening opening.

32. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 30 further comprising a molded part configured to be inserted into the first fastening opening, the mold part having a profiled inner contour configured to receive the transmission rod.

33. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 30 wherein the spring is encircled by the toothed element.

34. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 33 wherein the spring is configured to act directly on the toothed element and indirectly on the clamping element via the third toothing and the fourth toothing to hold the latching element in engagement with the first fitting part.

35. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 30 wherein the toothed element comprises an outer ring and an inner ring, the spring being arranged concentrically with and between the outer ring and the inner ring.

36. (New) The recliner mechanism of Claim 30 wherein the first fitting part, the latching element, the clamping element and the toothed element are coupled to a second fitting part and pivotable relative to each other about respective pivot axes, the respective pivot axes being arranged parallel to one another.